

Appln No. 09/999,903
Amdt date October 3, 2003
Reply to Office action of June 3, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Presently Amended) A telescopic drawer slide comprising:

a first drawer slide having a longitudinal length with a web and ~~arms~~ slideways along the longitudinal margins of the web;

a second drawer slide having a longitudinal length with a web, and ~~arms~~ slideways along the longitudinal margins of the web, the second drawer slide being nested within the ~~arms~~ slideways of the first drawer slide;

a₁ a third drawer slide having a longitudinal length with a web, and ~~arms~~ slider sections along the longitudinal margins of the web, the third drawer slide being nested within the ~~arms~~ slideways of the second drawer slide; and

a lock between the second drawer slide and the first drawer slide, the lock ~~having~~ comprising a ~~biased~~ tab rotatably coupled to the second drawer slide and an emboss on the first drawer slide;

wherein a movement of the second drawer slide in a closing direction causes the tab to lockingly engage ~~moves into a portion of the emboss upon movement over the emboss~~, thereby preventing the second drawer slide from further movement in the closing direction, closing relative to the third drawer slide and wherein the tab moves from a neutral position to a locking position by the action of its own weight when the tab is moved past the emboss in an opening direction, opposite the closing direction.

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2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Withdrawn)

4. (Presently Amended) The telescopic drawer slide of claim 1 wherein a movement of the third drawer slide in the closing direction causes the tab to disengage the emboss,~~the tab is moved over the emboss by the third drawer slide thereby allowing said further movement of the second drawer slide past the emboss in the closing direction to close relative to the first drawer slide after closing of the third drawer slide relative to the second drawer slide.~~

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5. (Presently Amended) The telescopic drawer slide of claim 4 wherein~~the emboss has~~ comprises an angled head portion and a edge portion connected to the head portion, wherein said movement of the second drawer slide in the closing direction causes the tab to lockingly engage the edge portion of the emboss ~~tapering toward the arcuate arms of the first drawer slide;~~

~~a wide portion with longitudinal edges; and
an edge leading to a narrow portion; and~~

~~the tab moves to the narrow portion and is restrained by the edge from closing.~~

6. (Previously Withdrawn)

7. (Presently Amended) The telescopic drawer slide of claim 1 wherein the arms slideways of the first drawer slide have a lateral portion that is bowed toward the arms slideways of the second drawer slide, and wherein the bowed lateral portion defines a contact area for sliding contact with the

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~~slideway of the second drawer slide and; and the arms of the second drawer slide are nested within the arms of the first drawer slide defining a contact area along a tip of the bowed portion of the arms of the first drawer slide and defining a reservoir portion adjacent to the contact area along the tip of the bowed portion of the arms of the first drawer slide.~~

8. (Presently Amended) The telescopic drawer slide of claim 7 wherein the

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slideways of the second drawer slide have a lateral portion that defines a sliding area for sliding contact with the slider sections of the first of the second drawer slide and a reservoir portion adjacent to the sliding area ~~arms of the third drawer slide have a lateral portion that is bowed toward the arms of the second drawer slide; and the arms of the third drawer slide are nested within the arms of the second drawer slide defining a contact area along a tip of the bowed portion of the arms of the third drawer slide and defining a reservoir adjacent to the contact area along the tip of the bowed portion of the arms of the third drawer slide.~~

9.-11. (Previously Withdrawn)

12. The telescopic drawer slide of claim 1 wherein the web of the second drawer slide has a hat section extending along the longitudinal length, the hat section clearing the emboss on the first drawer slide; and

the web of the third drawer slide has a hat section extending along the longitudinal length, the hat section of the third drawer slide clearing and surrounding the hat section of the second drawer slide.

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13. (Presently Amended) A The telescopic drawer slide according to claim 1 wherein the first drawer slide, the second drawer slide and the third drawer slide all fit within a space between a drawer and a cabinet of about 0.375 inches wide by about 1 inch in height.

14.-26. (Previously Withdrawn)

27. (New) The telescopic drawer slide according to claim 1, wherein the tab is substantially symmetric.

28. (New) The telescopic drawer slide according to claim 1, wherein the emboss is substantially symmetric.

29. (New) The telescopic drawer slide according to claim 28, wherein the emboss is substantially arrow shaped.

30. (New) A telescopic drawer slide comprising:
a first drawer slide having a longitudinal length with a web and slideways along the longitudinal margins of the web;
a second drawer slide having a longitudinal length with a web and slideways along the longitudinal margins of the web, the second drawer slide being nested within the slideways of the first drawer slide;
a third drawer slide having a longitudinal length with a web and slider sections along the longitudinal margins of the web, the third drawer slide being nested within the slideways of the second drawer slide; and
a lock between the second drawer slide and the first drawer slide, the lock comprising a tab rotatably coupled to the second drawer slide and an emboss on the first drawer slide, wherein the tab is moveable from a neutral position to a locking

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position by the action of its own weight and wherein a movement of the second drawer slide in a closing direction causes the tab to lockingly engage the emboss, thereby preventing the second drawer slide from further movement in the closing direction.

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31. (New) The telescopic drawer slide according to claim 30, wherein the tab is substantially symmetric.

32. (New) The telescopic drawer slide according to claim 30, wherein the emboss is substantially symmetric.

33. (New) The telescopic drawer slide according to claim 32, wherein the emboss is substantially arrow shaped.
